

0412 0410 2735 2635

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Escobosa et al.

Serial No.: 09/615,473

Filed: July 13, 2000

Title: CUSTOMIZABLE AND  
UPGRADABLE DEVICES AND  
METHODS RELATED THERETO)

Examiner: not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: 2735

Docket No.: 81230.56US1

RECEIVED

NOV 29 2000

Technology Center 2600

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3))**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office action; therefore, no fee is required.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(2)(i) and (ii), a copy of each U.S. patent and publication listed on Form 1449 is enclosed herewith. Also, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(2)(iii) a copy of U.S. serial numbers 09/418,091 and 09/611,620, which are listed on Form 1449, are not enclosed.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.104, no representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103 and Applicant reserves the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not

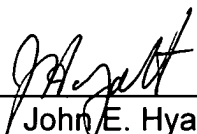
K H

"prior art." Moreover, Applicant does not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

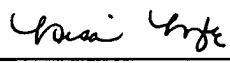
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of MPEP 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 20, 2000

By:   
John E. Hyatt, Reg. No. 43,421  
ALTHEIMER & GRAY  
10 S. Wacker Drive/Suite 4000  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
(312) 715-4000

Certificate of Mailing: The undersigned hereby certifies that this document and its enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2000.

By:   
Name: Lisa Lyle